

COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Policy Manual

1048 POLICE EXPLORERS

1048.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Explorers work under direct supervision and perform a variety of routine and progressively advanced tasks in an apprenticeship program in preparation for a career in law enforcement.

1048.2 EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Explorers are required to maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 ("C" grade) for all courses taken.

1048.3 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police will designate a sworn member as the program coordinator. The program coordinator will be responsible for tracking the educational and job performance of explorers as well as making their individual assignments throughout the Department. The program coordinator will also monitor the training provided for all explorers and review all decisions affecting job assignments, , school attendance and performance.

1048.3.1 PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

The program coordinator may select individual members to serve as assistants with the Explorer Program. These members can serve as mentors for each Explorer. Assistants may lead scheduled meetings and training sessions involving the explorers. Multiple explorers may be assigned to each program assistant. Any issues that may be a concern should be referred back to the program coordinator.

1048.4 ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

Newly appointed explorers will receive an orientation of the organization and facilities before reporting to their first assignment. On-the-job training will be conducted in compliance with the explorers training manual. Training sessions will be scheduled as needed to train explorers for as many assignments as possible. All training will focus on improving job performance, as well as preparation to become police officers. These meetings will also offer an opportunity to receive continuous feedback regarding progress of the program.

1048.7 RIDE-ALONG PROCEDURES

All explorers are authorized to participate in the Ride-Along Program as approved by the immediate supervisor and the appropriate Watch Commander. Applicable waivers must be signed in advance of the ride-along. Explorers shall wear their uniform while participating in a ride-along.